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RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

Brian R Naranjo 02/20/2002 08:11:23 AM From DB/Inbox: Brian R Naranjo

Cable Text:  
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TELEGRAM

February 19, 2002

To: SECSTATE WASHDC - ROUTINE  
Action: INR  
From: AMEMBASSY CARACAS (CARACAS 408 - ROUTINE)  
TAGS: PREL, PCOV, ELAB, VE  
Captions: SENSITIVE  
Subject: LABOR MARCH SET FOR FEBRUARY 27  
Ref: None

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: To protest the new Public Employment Statutory Law, passed last year under President Chavez's decree authority, thousands of public sector workers intend to march on February 27.

END SUMMARY.

THE CTV RETURNS TO CENTER STAGE

2. (U)

public sector workers, joined by workers from other sectors, will hold a major march in Caracas to protest the new Public Employment Statutory Law, passed last year as part of President Chavez's controversial Enabling Law package. This law is controversial mainly because it prohibits workers in key public sectors such as education, health, oil, and customs from striking, and that it forces collective contracts to be approved through a chain of ministries, with the president himself having the final word. More traditional labor leaders define the law, which incidentally is backed by the pro-Chavez Bolivarian Labor Force (FBT), as "neoliberal."

CTV ELECTIONS STILL NOT RECOGNIZED

4. (U) Hanging over the head of the CTV is the lack of recognition of last October's election by the pro-Chavez National Electoral Council (CNE). This impediment has, at least officially, made it impossible for the Ministry of Labor to reactivate the "tripartite" talks

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 18 FEB 2012

DATE/CASE ID: 19 JUN 2006 200304421

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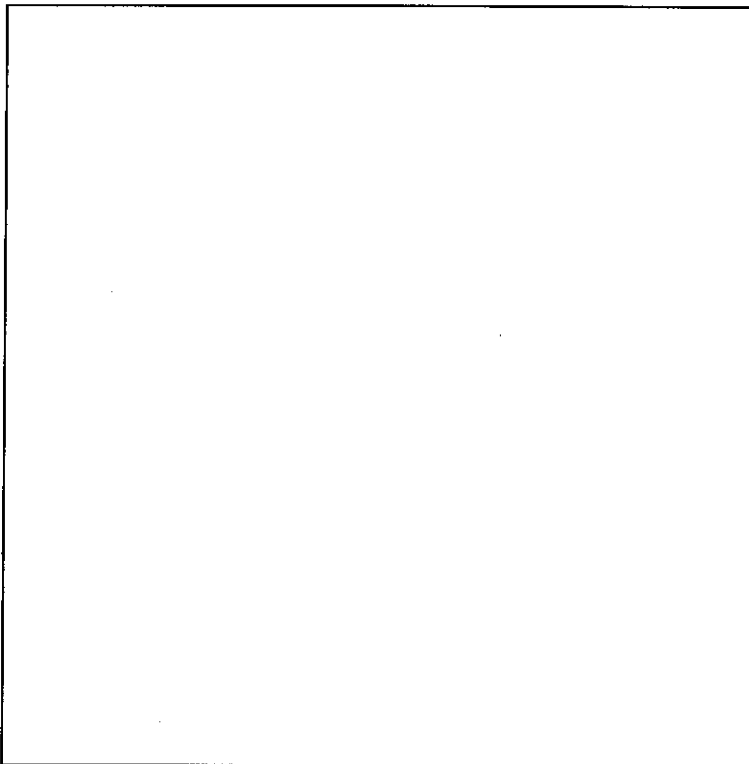
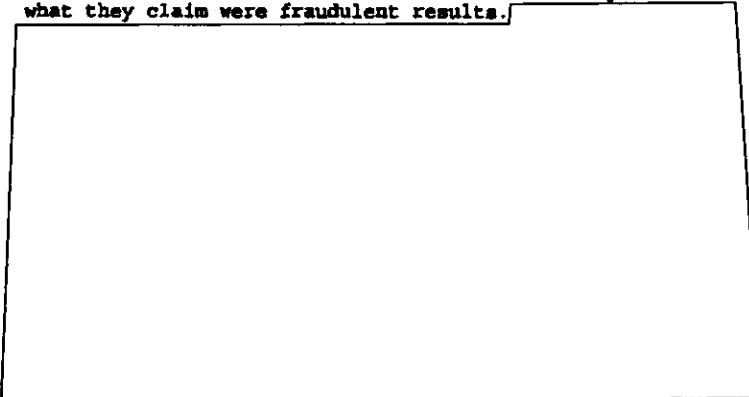
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between the government, business, and labor to discuss a new minimum wage. Some labor officials have noted publicly their fear that the government will simply declare a new minimum wage without their input.

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ELECTORAL SHADOW STILL HANGS OVER CTV  
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5. (U) Last October's election still has not been settled within labor, either. Four members of the 14 seat CTV Executive Committee still refuse their seats to protest what they claim were fraudulent results.



Hrinak.

Additional Addressees:

None

cc:

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LABOR COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USINT HAVANA

Distribution:

TED4009

ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	DODR-00	AMHR-00	WHA-00	DS-00
	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	LAB-01	VCR-00	AC-01	DCP-01
	NSAE-00	ACE-00	IRM-00	TEST-00	BPAB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02
	NPAT-00	SAS-00	/005W				

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R 192110Z FEB 02  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4804  
INFO DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC  
CIA WASHDC  
DIA WASHDC  
NSC WASHDC  
USCINCSO MIAMI FL  
LABOR COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
USINT HAVANA

UNCLAS CARACAS 000408

INR FOR COZART  
DEPT LABOR FOR D/US- LOPEZ PEREZ  
NSC FOR AMBASSADOR MAISTO  
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

SENSITIVE  
E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ELAB, VE  
SUBJ: LABOR MARCH SET FOR FEBRUARY 27

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End Cable Text

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3

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